

CONTINUED MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JANUARY 5, 2018

The Jasper County Commissioners met this date at 9:00 A.M. C.S.T., in the Commissioners Room, Suite 202, of the Jasper County Courthouse located at 115 West Washington Street, Rensselaer, Indiana, with the following members present: Kendell Culp, James A. Walstra and Richard E. Maxwell. Also present were Auditor Kimberly K. Grow and Deputy Auditor Tina M. Porter.

VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER APPOINTMENT: Mr. Donnelly and Mr. Woodcock were present to speak with the Commissioners about the Veterans Service Officer appointment. Mr. Culp asked them what their current roles are and what their plans are with switching roles. Mr. Donnelly replied that, for the most part, Mr. Woodcock handles the outreach. He stated that his intentions for "resurrecting" the Veterans Council was to get things done through the Council without costing the County money, such as purchasing the vehicle from the Sheriff's Department. The Veterans Office also has an assistance fund that helps Veterans in need that is run through the Council. Mr. Woodcock oversees all the initiatives that are handled through the Council. He also handles about as many claims as Mr. Donnelly does. Since the State began mandating annual training, he and Mr. Woodcock have learned how to do the research and supply the information to get a positive outcome for the Veteran. All of this is very time consuming and takes more than one person to accomplish everything that needs to be done. He said that every commander at every legion post he's talked to has commended the work he and Mr. Woodcock are doing. He stated that Mr. Woodcock is the most qualified person in the County aside from him to do the job. He said that Mr. Woodcock has the experience, having worked in the office for three years. He then read an excerpt from the manual and explained his interpretation about employees to be reasonably determined by the management, with him being management of the office. Mr. Culp asked if the Veterans Office oversees the Veterans Council. Mr. Woodcock replied that the bylaws outline that the Veterans Service Officer is there in an advisory role. The Council has a commander, vice commander, the secretary and treasurer. Initially, the Council's role was very minimal and the Veterans Office has tried to build it up to mimic what other Councils are doing in other counties. Mr. Culp asked about the flags that are sold in the Veterans Office. Mr. Donnelly said that they are sold by the Veterans Council. Before leaving so the Commissioners could talk to Mr. Woodcock, Mr. Donnelly requested that Mr. Woodcock's appointment be retroactive to January 1, 2018 if they agree to the role switching. Mr. Culp replied that if Auditor Grow approves, they can do it that way.

Mr. Culp asked Mr. Woodcock about his military background. He replied that he joined in 1999 and became a utility technician repairman, but was actually a mechanic the entire time. He was in the army for six and one-half years. He then provided more information about his background since his time in the military. He currently resides in Jasper County. Mr. Culp asked if he would have to take more training. He replied that he successfully completed the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs TRIP training. To gain accreditation with the other service organizations, he would be required to attend an annual conference at Camp Atterbury. As far as the VFW and the American Legion, the TRIP training is sufficient. Auditor Grow asked Mr. Woodcock if he has someone in the office to file a claim, would he please also have someone answering the phone.

EMPLOYEE BOND / KIMBERLY MATHEW: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the bond for Kimberly Mathew. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

INDIANA GAMING COMMISSION: This was previously approved and only needs signatures due to the date needing corrected.

VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER APPOINTMENT CONT'D: Mr. Walstra made a motion to appoint Chris Woodcock as the full-time Veterans Service Officer, retroactive to January 1, 2018. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

CAREMARK PRESCRIPTION COVERAGE: Mr. Maxwell stated that, during a meeting, Mr. Fagen stated that covered individuals would be able to use their normal pharmacy for prescriptions, which is actually not the case for maintenance medications. The medications must be filled at CVS/Caremark. Mr. Walstra stated that the County is saving \$37,000.00 or \$38,000.00 by making this change. Mr. Maxwell stated that he's upset his question was not answered correctly.

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CAREMARK PRESCRIPTION COVERAGE: Mr. Culp stated that he talked to Mr. Fagen about a survey for the employees versus getting a group together. Mr. Fagen said that, with an electronic survey, a lot of times you have to provide multiple choice. If it were paper, the employee could write in their answer and it wouldn't be too difficult to tally.

PAYSTUBS: Auditor Grow stated that employees will not be getting paystubs, but she's going to talk to Lowe regarding putting a module on the County's website where employees can obtain their paystubs if they wish. Mr. Maxwell mentioned that his wife gets her paystub emailed. Mr. Culp then asked Auditor Grow how difficult it would be to send a group email. He said the email could be as simple as just stating that the direct deposit was deposited the previous night.

ENERGY SAVINGS: There was discussion about the projected energy savings. Mr. Culp stated that he had questions and has contacted Trane for clarification. Mr. Culp informed Mr. Walstra and Mr. Maxwell that he received a call from Mr. Carney, who stated that the bearings went out in the air handler at the Prosecutor's Office. Ziese informed Mr. Carney that the job would entail taking everything out and it would be better to cut a hole in the side to replace the bearings and then cover the hole with sheet metal. Due to the fact that the equipment could be replaced as early as this year, Mr. Culp gave him permission to proceed in this manner. The air handler heats the Prosecutor's Office and the large area in the Health Department. For the time being, Mr. Carney bought a couple space heaters.

The Commissioners agreed that the biggest savings and the quickest return on investment in the energy savings project is in lighting. Mr. Culp stated that he would like to separate the Community Corrections building from the project since it's actually repairs as opposed to energy savings and it could be paid out of budget money.

There was discussion about fund balances and the additional that were advertised for the January Council meeting. There is \$245,000.00 out of the \$500,000.00 that was left over from the 2017 budget in Courthouse, Buildings, Grounds and Repairs that they will be requesting Council's approval to appropriate and \$225,000.00 out of Energy Savings. There is also \$225,000.00 available in the 2018 budget for a total of \$695,000.00. The Commissioners agreed that they would prefer not to borrow the money. Auditor Grow stated that the fund has to be able to support what is appropriated.

Mr. Culp stated that both companies are very qualified to do the job, but whichever one they don't choose, the Commissioners can ask to complete the work at Community Corrections. There was discussion about a wind-break at the Courthouse entrance. There was mention of the electric being updated when the Courthouse was redone.

Auditor Grow stated that she received a response from Umbaugh. Ms. Sansone informed Auditor Grow that the best scenario would be to take the money out of Rainy Day Fund. Auditor Grow stated that the additional in CUM CAP Development would not be needed. Mr. Culp stated that it would take longer to pay it back if the Council wants it paid back. The current balance in Rainy Day is \$7,744,215.00. The actual cash value in CUM Bridge including investments is \$3,500,000.00. A response was received from Trane regarding projected savings. The annual utility bills for the Courthouse are \$39,158.00 and Community Corrections are \$21,164.00. The energy savings potential is \$19,483.00 for the Courthouse and Community Corrections and \$4,500.00 at the Annex. They have estimated operational savings associated with the improvements to be around \$18,000.00, which is savings in staff time. Another factor taken in to consideration is the lack of fresh air in the Courthouse. They said they will be required to meet indoor air quality standards for public buildings. There was discussion about Honeywell's guaranteed savings. Service costs have not yet been estimated. Operational savings are above and beyond guaranteed savings.

There was discussion about both bids. Mr. Culp stated that he doesn't see where there will be much difference in price. Mr. Maxwell agreed and added that Honeywell's guaranteed savings is higher. Mr. Walstra stated that with Honeywell being an Indiana company, they have a lot of service technicians in the South Bend area.

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ENERGY SAVINGS CONT'D: There was discussion about Havel and the jail. The County signed a maintenance contract with them for the jail; however, they are working on equipment since they originally installed it. The Commissioners would like to look in to the energy savings to see if it has expired. They would like to also look in to solar and the water situation.

Mr. Walstra made a motion to hire Honeywell for the energy savings project for the Courthouse, Annex and Highway Department and to hire Trane to perform the repairs at the Community Corrections building and to do an assessment on the jail. Mr. Culp seconded and the motion carried. Mr. Walstra stated that Trane should also give a bid on the lighting.

FERTILIZER / COUNTY FARM: The Commissioners discussed what was decided on for fertilizer at the farm. It is one-hundred pounds of phosphate at the Airport and the County Farm on the North and the Fairgrounds gets potash. Mr. Maxwell said that he is going to tell the tenant that he has to report his usage of fertilizer and maintain his yields. The County wants proof of yields and proof of fertilizer application. Mr. Culp asked if that would solve the problem and Mr. Maxwell replied that, if he does it for a couple years, it will catch it up some. He said he's discussed it with Ms. DeWees on the Airport Board and came up with a program the tenant would have to follow. He said that Ms. DeWees has three different contracts through her farm management and she has one that will fit the County perfect for the next lease. Mr. Culp stated that, with the requirement of a soil test at the end of the third year, it's hard to enforce that. The County needs some way to hold them accountable.

CRP LAND: Mr. Culp stated that he talked to Mr. Curtis Gutwein, who has CRP land along the Denton, who said Wilma at the FSA told him he's out of compliance because they've basically eliminated all the vegetation by covering it up. FSA will hold off on any kind of action since Mr. Gutwein will be unable to seed until then. Mr. Culp told them that it's been talked about in Drainage Board, although they did not come to any agreement. Mr. Culp stated that he will talk to Wilma since it is an expensive mix for us to have to go back and do that. Mr. Walstra suggested that we put down what we normally do and if it doesn't come back, Mr. Gutwein will have to seed it. Mr. Culp stated that, if the farmer puts it to CRP, the Surveyor can access the ditch any time of the year which is a positive. Mr. Maxwell stated that if it costs that much to reseed, the farmer will not make any money over a ten year period.

There being no further business, this meeting is now adjourned.

Kendell Culp, President

James A. Walstra, Vice President

Richard E. Maxwell, Member

ATTEST:

Kimberly K. Grow, Auditor of Jasper County